Summer Employment Programs

This document serves as a resource for some of the summer employment programs available as well as alternative summer opportunities. Additional on-line job search starting points are also provided. For more information about strategies for job searching, visit the Summer Job Search Tip Sheet on the Career Centre website.

Federal Student Work Experience Program – FSWEP (Federal Government)

Web Site: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-service-commission/jobs/services/recruitment/students/federal-student-work-program.html

Overview: Federal departments and agencies recruit for about 8,000 summer positions each year including: Student Guide in France; Inshore Rescue Boat Service Student Program, etc. You must be currently enrolled in full-time studies and returning to full-time studies in September in order to be eligible. Preference is given to Canadian citizens.

When/How to apply: Deadlines vary by posting, but applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis so it is best to apply early. Government departments search through this database when a position comes up and contact students meeting their search criteria.

Student Border Services Officer – Canada Border Services Agency


Overview: Help exercise control over the movement of goods, vehicles and persons entering or exiting Canada. Positions are posted for various locations. Employment is full-time in the summer. Preference may be given to student in a field of study related to criminology, law, security, law enforcement, psychology, sociology, or police studies. Students must be returning to full-time studies in the fall in order to qualify. Please refer to the website for additional information and conditions of employment.

When/How to apply: Student Border Services Officer applications are processed through the Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP) database. Recruitment period closes at the beginning of January.

Young Canada Works (YCW)

Web Site: https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/young-canada-works.html

Overview: The Department of Canadian Heritage provides summer jobs and internships across Canada for current students and recent graduates. YCW provides opportunities for students in the YCW in Heritage Organizations and the YCW in Both Official Languages programs; graduates can enroll in the YCW at Building Careers in Heritage and the YCW at Building Careers in English and French programs. Pay and job duration vary with each position and program. Jobs may have English/French language requirements. Jobs can be from three to sixteen weeks, while internships can be from four to twelve months.

When/How to apply: Sign up and create an account at https://young-canada-works.canada.ca/Account/Login
You can browse job listings without signing in, but you must register to express interest in a position.

Languages at Work Program

Web Site: https://languagesatwork.ca/

Overview: This program is offered by Young Canada Works to individuals that complete the Explore program at an institution that offers the Languages at Work program. (Details on the Explore program can be found in the ‘Alternatives to Summer Work’ section of this document). Eligible participants can apply to summer placements in their host city that range from three to eight weeks. Participants continue learning French while working in areas such as retail, tourism, catering, and summer camps.

When/How to apply: No registration is needed before arriving at your host city for Explore. Once arrived on site for the Explore program, an agent will meet with all bursary recipients and the hiring process (submission of resume and interviews with potential employers) will then begin. Please note that work placements are not guaranteed as it depends on employers’ needs and the level of the participant’s second language.
Post-Secondary Co-op/Internship Program
Web Site: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-service-commission/jobs/services/recruitment/students/coop-internship.html
Overview: This program is a way for students to gain hands-on experience, in their fields of study, with a federal organization. Students must be a full-time student enrolled in a co-op/internship program that has been approved for federal organizations to recruit from (please refer to the website for the list). Non-Canadian citizens can apply but preference will be given for Canadian citizens.
When/How to apply: Students cannot apply on the website but must register with their school’s on-campus co-op/internship program coordinator.

Ontario Internship Program
Web Site: https://www.internship.gov.on.ca/mbs/sdb/intern.nsf/lkpwebcontent/epublishedhome
Overview: This program is a paid, two-year program run by the Ontario government to give students an opportunity to participate in assignments in the fields of business and financial planning, human resources, policy development, and more. Participants must have graduated within the last 2 years or will be completing an undergraduate degree, postgraduate certificate or diploma.
When/How to apply: Apply online through their website. Applications happen in the first two weeks of January.

Research Affiliate Program (RAP)
Web Site: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-service-commission/jobs/services/recruitment/students/research-affiliate-program.html
Overview: This program provides post-secondary students with opportunities to conduct innovative research and gain experience with federal organizations in their degree program. Students can be paid with an hourly wage, a stipend, or a bursary. Students must be enrolled full-time or be enrolled part-time with a disability at their post-secondary academic institution, and must be enrolled in an academic program that requires research as part of their curriculum.
When/How to apply: Students need to create an account at jobs.gc.ca in order to search for and apply for RAP jobs. RAP jobs can be found by selecting the ‘student programs’ criteria. Application must be fully completed and submitted online in order to be considered for the job.

National Research Council (NRC) Student Employment Program
Overview: Students gain practical career-related experience in research and development, library sciences, communications, marketing, and other areas. Each term lasts around 16 weeks, with work full-time over non-academic semesters and part-time over academic semesters. You must be returning to full-time studies in September to qualify; preference may be given to students with B+ academic average. Foreign students who meet the eligibility criteria and possess a valid Off-Campus Work Permit can also apply.
When/How to apply: There is no deadline, but applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis so it is best to apply early. Hiring managers search through this database when a position comes up and contact students meeting their search criteria. Your application is only active until September of the following year; you would need to reapply after that.

Ontario Legislature Internship Programme
Web Site: https://www.olipinterns.ca/
Overview: Ten interns are selected from across Canada to take part in a nonpartisan programme. Interns will be involved with the daily workings of the Ontario legislature by providing MPPs with extra staff assistance and will be writing an academic paper on a topic of their choice. Internships begin in September and last for ten months. The programme is open to Canadian citizens who have recently graduated from a Canadian university.
When/How to apply: Check website; deadline to apply is usually end of January. Applications consist of a 600-word letter of interest, a CV, transcript and 3 letters of reference and are all submitted online.
National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
Overview: These awards are meant to stimulate your interest in research in the natural sciences and engineering as well as encourage you to undertake graduate studies and pursue a research career in these fields. If you would like to gain research experience in an academic setting, these awards can provide you with financial support through your host university.
When/How to apply: Applications, forms and requirements vary based on the opportunity selected. You can find the application form online and apply through the website.

Summer Employment Opportunities (Ontario Provincial Government)
Web Site: https://www.gojobs.gov.on.ca/Pages/SEP.aspx
Overview: A variety of summer jobs are available in varying fields of the Ontario Public Service. These are full-time temporary positions, lasting seven to eighteen weeks in the summer, requiring residency in Ontario during the term of employment. Full-time and part-time students may apply, and recent graduates may apply for and start a position within 6 months of their graduation date. International students can apply as long as they meet program eligibility with a valid study or work permit and Social Insurance number.
When/How to apply: Deadlines vary by posting date – check website (jobs are posted in early February). Application form must be submitted online and you must submit one document with your application (recommended to attach a resume and cover letter).

Youth Skills Connections Program (Ontario Provincial Government)
Web Site: https://www.ontario.ca/page/skills-and-job-training-young-people
Overview: You can get hands-on training through a participating organization, such as local businesses, training providers, not-for-profit business development organizations, and professional associations. You may get a chance for long-term employment. You can apply if you’re an Ontarian resident aged 15 to 29, but age requirements may differ for each individual program. Please check with the participating organization to learn more about entry requirements.
When/How to apply: You need to apply directly to an organization offering the Youth Skills Connections Program. The list of organizations is available on the website and is updated regularly.

TalentEdge
Web Site: http://www.oce-ontario.org/programs/industry-academic-collaboration/talentedge
Overview: Gain hands-on experience working with industries in research, development, commercialization, and data analytics. If you are a current college or university student, or a recent graduate, you can get up to three 4-month internships in a business where you’ll be working on a project in your discipline or area of specialization. If you are a doctoral student, you can get up to two paid 12-month fellowships to work on industry-driven research and development projects. Undergraduate applicants must be in their final year of study.
When/How to apply: Applications must be made through the Ontario Centres of Excellence. Applications for graduate or undergraduate internships can be submitted at any time and will be reviewed throughout the year. To apply, visit the website.

Ontario Geological Survey (OGS)
Overview: Full-time students (prospective or full-time graduate student) in the geosciences or related studies at university/college can apply for opportunities such as bedrock geological mapping, environment and surficial investigations, aggregate and industrial mineral assessments, and groundwater quality and aquifer mapping. Basic CPR training is required, as well as some knowledge /experience with applicable computer software and hardware. Applicants must be willing to work outdoors for extended periods of time. The average field season is 12-14 weeks in the summer.
When/How to apply: Check website; deadline to apply is usually by mid-March. Download application form from web site, then send completed application by email or mail with a cover letter and resume.
City of Mississauga
Website: http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/mycitycareer
Overview: Offering opportunities at sports camps, day camps, arts, parks and aquatics programs within the community.
When/How to apply: Deadlines vary – please check individual postings for application deadlines.

City of Toronto
Website: https://www.toronto.ca/home/jobs/
Overview: The City of Toronto is looking to hire individuals interested in working in the public service and customer service industries. Some of the job streams include health, education, and community recreation.
When/How to apply: Deadlines vary by posting date – check website.

City of Brampton
Website: http://www.brampton.ca/EN/City-Hall/Employment/Seasonal/Pages/welcome.aspx
Overview: The City of Brampton recruits individuals to work in summer camps, parks maintenance and operations, construction, and more.
When/How to apply: Candidates are encouraged to apply online. Alternatively, applications can be completed at an application kiosk at City Hall. Deadlines vary by posting date – check website.

Entrepreneurship

Numerous programs and support exist for young entrepreneurs. Information can be found at the following sites:

Ontario Government - Summer Company Program:
https://www.ontario.ca/page/start-summer-company-students

Ontario Government – Starter Company Program:
https://www.ontario.ca/page/small-business-advice-support-services-regulations

Ontario Government – Strategic Community Entrepreneurship Projects Program:
https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-help-finding-youth-or-student-job#section-22

Ontario Government – Youth Investment Accelerator Fund:
www.marsiaf.com

Ontario Centres of Excellence - SmartStart Seed Fund
https://www.oce-ontario.org/programs/campus-entrepreneurship/smartstart-seed-fund

Canadian Youth Business Foundation:
http://www.futurpreneur.ca/en/

School for Social Entrepreneurs:
https://www.the-sse.ca/

MaRS Entrepreneurship 101:
https://www.youtube.com/user/MaRScentre/videos
Summer Travel Abroad

Keep in mind that working is only one way to spend your summer! You may also want to consider other alternatives such as travelling, learning a new language or volunteering. See below for a few suggestions.

Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP)

Website: http://www.swap.ca

Overview: SWAP helps students with work visas and finding employment or volunteer positions in countries such as Australia, Ireland, Austria, Japan, the United States, and more. Orientation sessions are held upon arrival in the host country. SWAP is not a job placement agency.

When/How to apply: Varies by country; visit website for more information, or fill out the online application form to apply.

International Summer Programs

Website: http://www.summerabroad.utoronto.ca

Overview: Take a U of T undergraduate credit course abroad where the country will become your ‘living textbook’. Courses are offered in Australia, Central Europe, China, Ecuador, England, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, South Africa, South Korea and Spain. Course length varies from 3-6 weeks. Bursaries, awards, and scholarships are available. Check the website for info session dates.

When to apply: Space is limited, so apply early. Summer Abroad application forms will be online from mid-December. Deadline to apply for all programs is February 3. U of T students wishing to be considered for financial assistance offered through Woodsworth College must apply February 3.

Explore

Website: http://www.myexplore.ca

Overview: Learn French this summer in a five-week program at another Canadian academic institution. The program includes a $2,800 bursary covering tuition fees, instructional materials, meals and accommodations. This is a prerequisite for the “Languages at Work Program,” mentioned above.

When/How to apply: Deadline to apply to Explore is the middle of February. Application forms are available online.
Volunteering

For many students, volunteering is an excellent means of career exploration, developing skills and experience, cultivating contacts, and getting involved in your community! For more information regarding volunteering drop by the Career Centre and ask a Career Assistant to help you discover various opportunities. Also, check out our ‘Volunteering’ tipsheet.

DEEP Summer Academy
Website: https://outreach.engineering.utoronto.ca/pre-university-programs/deep/deep-summer-academy/
Overview: This program offers a variety of outreach activities to increase younger students' interest in science and engineering, including DEEP Summer Academy and Robotics.
When/How to apply: Check the website for the volunteer application information

Volunteer Toronto – http://www.volunteertoronto.ca
Volunteer Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon – https://vmbc.volunteerattract.com/
Peel Community Services Directory – https://peel.cioc.ca/
Government of Canada (Students) – https://www.canada.ca/en/services/jobs/opportunities/student.html

Work Search Websites

UTM CAREER CENTRE
The following webpages in the UTM Career Centre provides industry-specific job boards and links
- https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/jobs/resources-links
- https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning/careers-major

Job Bank – https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/home; you can also look at career profiles and labour market information by clicking on ‘Explore Careers’ or use the following link: https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/trend-analysis


Career Cruising – via the Resources section of the U of T Career Learning Network; visit a career profile and select ‘Find Jobs’


TalentEgg - http://www.talentegg.ca

Government of Ontario – www.gojobs.gov.on.ca (see Youth and New Professionals link on side of page)

GoodWork Canada – http://www.goodwork.ca/

Workopolis Campus – http://www.workopolis.com/jobsearch/all-student-jobs
ONLINE PUBLICATIONS & PRESS RELEASES

Canada Newswire – www.newswire.ca


PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & INDUSTRY SITES

CharityVillage – www.charityvillage.com

Industry Canada – http://www.ic.gc.ca; -> Choose English or French, then enter Company Directories in the Search box

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION


Hoovers – www.hoovers.com

Helpful Tip: Another work search strategy is to view previously posted positions that have expired. This is useful in finding out when certain positions were posted in the past, job description details (requirements and skills needed), and company research. You can come into the Career Centre Resource Library to view past job, internship and volunteer postings. Please ask a staff for help if you need assistance.

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